

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MEXICO 10615 182047Z

70

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EB-07 OES-06 EPA-04 ISO-00 PASS-00

INT-05 /033 W

----- 039822

R 181900Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6852

INFO AMCONSUL MAZATLAN

UNCLAS MEXICO 10615

DEPARTMENT PASS US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VA.,
AND DENVER, COLORADO.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC EMIN MX

SUBJ: MAJOR EXPORT OPPORTUNITY: COMPUTER SOFTWARE FOR PHOSPHATE
ROCK MINING & PROCESSING.

REF: (A) STATE 201106; (B) MEXICO 2177.

1. MINOFF DISCUSSED QUESTIONS RAISED IN REF A WITH ING.
ENRIQUE BARRUEL ON AUGUST 13 AND WITH DR. GUILLERMO SALAS,
HEAD OF THE MINERAL RESOURCES COUNCIL AND A MEMBER OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COMPANIA ROCA FOSFORICA (CRF).
SALAS PREVIOUSLY BRIEFED MINOFF ON BAJA PHOSPHATES AS PER
REF B.

2. BULK SAMPLE ANALYSIS OF ROCK IS CURRENTLY BEING DONE
BY GOM LABORATORIES, BY THE USGS LAB IN DENVER, COLO., AND
BY A GERMAN COMPANY. RESULTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ABOUT
APRIL 1977. JIM CATEHART (SP.?) IN DENVER IS FAMILIAR
WITH THE OPERATION. ANOTHER GOM LAB IS WORKING ON
BENEFICIATION PROCESSES. GOAL IS TO UPGRADE ORE TO 30 PERCENT
P TWO O FIVE WITH 70-80 PERCENT RECOVERY RATE FROM
SLIMES.

3. CIA. ROCA FOSFORICA IS TALKING ABOUT COMPLETION OF A
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MEXICO 10615 182047Z

1.3 MILLION MT PILOT PLANT BY THE END OF 1977. ACCORDING

TO SALES, THIS IS TOTALLY UNREALISTIC, SINCE, AS YET, NO ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE BENEFICIATION PROCESS HAS BEEN DEVELOPED. 1980 IS A MORE REASONABLE TARGET.

4. CRF WILL PROBABLY CONTRACT FOR AN OVERALL FEASIBILITY STUDY BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER. SOFREMIN, S.A., A FRANCO-MEXICAN COMPANY, IS LIKELY TO GET THE NOD. IBCON'S STUDY SEEMS TO BE AN ENTIRELY SEPARATE UNDERTAKING WITH LITTLE OR NO RELATION TO THE MORE GENERAL PLANNING.

5. PROJECT WILL BE FINANCED BY GOM REVENUES, SUPPLIER CREDITS, AND LOANS FROM INTERNATIONAL AND PRIVATE LENDERS.

6. PRODUCTION WILL BE SOLD TO FERTILIZANTES FOSFATADOS MEXICANOS TO REPLACE ROCK CURRENTLY BEING IMPORTED. PRODUCTION IN EXCESS OF DOMESTIC DEMAND WILL BE EXPORTED EITHER AS BENEFICIATED ROCK OR AS FINISHED PRODUCTS.

7. IBCON STUDY APPEARS TO US TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO PRECLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOFREMIN WILL FIND THE PROJECT ECONOMICALLY UNFEASIBLE. SALAS WAS NOT REPEAT NOT AWARE OF IBCON'S EFFORTS AND BEMOANED THE FACT THAT MINING ENGINEERS WERE NOT PLAYING A DECISIVE ROLE IN CRF'S MANAGEMENT. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT EARLY U.S. PARTICIPATION COULD STRONGLY INFLUENCE LATER DECISIONS ON SOURCES OF EQUIPMENT AND ENGINEERING SERVICES.
JOVA

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED USGS RESTON, VA., AND USGS DENVER, COLO.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINING EQUIPMENT, COMPUTERS, TRADE OPPORTUNITY REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO10615
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760317-0871
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760843/aaaabkut.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 201106, 76 MEXICO 2177
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR EXPORT OPPORTUNITY: COMPUTER SOFTWARE FOR PHOSPHATE ROCK MINING & PROCESSING.
TAGS: BENC, EMIN, BTIO, MX, US, COMPANIA ROCA FOSFORICA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006